

THE

GATEWAY

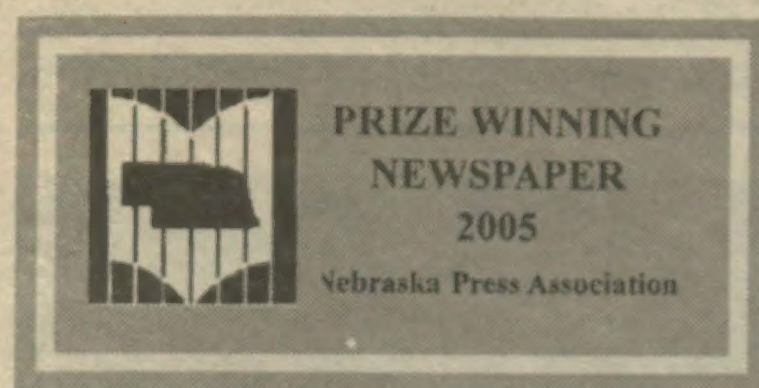
THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1913

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TUESDAY

April 11, 2006



MavCard redesigned to improve security

SCOTT STEWART

SENIOR STAFF WRITER / SYSTEMS MANAGER

Your MavCard will soon be getting a makeover.

Starting April 17, students will be able to have their new MavCard issued to them as part of a special "re-carding event" conducted by MavCard Services.

"We just wanted something more appealing on the eyes," said Mary Dobrac, coordinator of MavCard Services. "It just looks a lot better."

The cosmetic change occurs at the same time as a university-wide push to stop the widespread use of Social Security numbers to identify University of Nebraska students. Starting this August, UNO will join UNL in issuing a unique eight-digit NU ID number to each student. This number will allow students to be easily identified on any campus in the University of Nebraska system.

"The university as a whole is trying to

See **MAVCARD**: Page 7

Resonate Series continues with tenor



photo by Caelan Miller

Tenor Scott Miller and pianist Teresa Heil perform Cangia, cangia tue voglie by Giovanni B. Fasolo at the Strauss Performing Arts Center on April 9.

Local newscaster joins "Consider This"

JONATHAN HARROLD

STAFF WRITER

You've probably seen them a million times. You're strolling through the Milo Bail Student Center and there in the fireside lounge are a pack of UNO students, local newscaster Carol Schrader

and a whole bunch of lights, cameras and action. What's going on? It's "Consider This" and soon, it's going to look a little different.

"Consider This" is a half-hour program dedicated to in-depth interviews about current news and issues which airs on Cox channels 16, 17 and 26. The

average episode covers anything from religion to scientific breakthroughs. Now, after nine seasons on the show, Schrader is stepping down.

Schrader shot her last episode February 3.

"That episode featured the chancellor, which was her first interview on the show,"

See **"CONSIDER THIS"**: Page 2

Appointments, resolutions abound in Student Senate meeting

SCOTT STEWART

SENIOR STAFF WRITER / SYSTEMS MANAGER

More than 40 appointments were made, \$1,897 was allocated and the UNO Student Senate passed several pieces of legislation on Thursday, including one that declares campus policy invalid.

The senate meeting began with comments in open forum by Frank Bramlett, a UNO English professor, discussing the Safe Space Initiative on campus.

"We want this campus to be inclusive and tolerant for all people, Bramlett said. "In the past couple of years, there have been at least three students who have been physically threatened; one student has been threatened with death."

Bramlett encouraged senators to endorse the program and any interested

The Student Senate also...

- Heard from Sharif Liwaru about Global Night Commute on April 29 and concerns over "abduction and child soldiering" in northern Uganda.
- Passed a letter of commendation to the UNO hockey team.
- Released the results of its Student Government Week survey.
- Resolved to plant a hardwood deciduous tree on Earth Day.
- Allocated money for an advertisement in the *Gateway's* year-in-review publication, the *Retrospect*.

senators to display an "ally" sticker on the door, as many students and faculty

See **STUDENT SENATE**: Page 7



SpankCandy gets naughty in Omaha

Johnny Mayhem snaps a mouse trap on his tongue during a stage performance put on by SpankCandy Friday night at Club Roxbury.

photo by Josh Williamson

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NEWS

Angi Sada | News Editor

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news@gateway.unomaha.edu | April 11, 2006

News you can use

COMPILED BY KIMBERLY BRYANT
STAFF WRITER

Native American speakers series April 13

UNO will be the site of the 2006 Native American Speakers Series titled "Lights, Camera, Action: Native Americans and Film" Thursday, April 13. The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held at 7 p.m. in the W.H. and Dorothy Thompson Alumni Center.

Native/First Nations people will be on hand to serve as panelists at the event. The group also will discuss the depiction of Native American people in film. Native films will be screened.

Gail Maurice, actor and director from Canada, will lead the panel discussion. Among her film credits are *Johnny Greeyes*, *Little Indians* and *Smudge*. Other panelists will include Moses Brings Plenty, actor/performer; Sheila Rocha, playwright/director Rich Barea, actor/performer; and John Belindo, actor/performer.

Sponsors of the festival include Native American Studies at UNO, the Native American Speakers Series, the *Journal of Religion & Film*, the UNO Film Society, the UNO Department of English, the Goodrich Program and the UNO College of Arts and Sciences.

For more information, contact Beth Ritter at 554-3376, Barbara Robins at 554-3326 or

Kathy Cox Schwartz at 554-2628.

Inter-Tribal Student Council Pow Wow set for April 15

The UNO campus will be filled with Native-American spirit Saturday, April 15, during the eighth annual pow wow event, which will run from noon to 6 p.m. at Sapp Fieldhouse.

The Grand Entry will begin at noon, and dinner will be served at 3:30 p.m. in the Milo Bail Student Center Food Court. The event is free and open to the public. Registration for participating dancers and vendors will begin at 10 a.m. The first four drums to register will receive \$100.

Native-American dance, drum groups and singing are among the activities planned for the pow wow. It will feature the participation of the following individuals from their designated tribes:

- Jeramie Colvin (Seminole) and Julia Wolf (Omaha), master and mistress of ceremonies;
- Lance Knudsen (Omaha), arena director;
- Ruben Zendejas (Omaha), hoop dancer;
- Thomas Hinman (Ponca), head boy;
- Shelly Hernandez (Omaha), head girl;
- Kristina Cantu (Omaha/Ponca), pow wow princess;
- Soldier Boys, host northern drum;
- Craig Cleveland, Jr. (Winnebago), head

singer;

- Young Generation, host southern drum;
- Neal Sheridan Jr. (Omaha), head singer; and
- Warrior Society, color guard.

The pow wow is being sponsored by the UNO Inter-Tribal Student Council and Native American Studies at UNO, and the Nebraska Arts Council.

For more information, contact Carolyn Fiscus at 554-3987.

Smokers sought for UNMC exercise study

Smokers are being sought for an exercise study to be conducted at the University of Nebraska Medical Center and UNO.

UNMC researchers will evaluate the effect of exercise training on insulin sensitivity in smokers who have elevated blood sugar levels. Subjects will participate in eight weeks of exercise at the Center for Healthy Living at UNMC or the Health, Physical Education and Recreation Building at UNO.

If you are a smoker between the ages of 19 and 65 in good general health who doesn't exercise on a regular basis, you may be eligible to participate. Interested individuals will be offered a fasting blood sugar test at no cost to determine if they are eligible for the study.

For more information, contact the study coordinator at 559-3458 or dmeyerk@unmc.edu.

CCSW to host sexual assault mock trial and cell phone drive

In observance of April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the UNO Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women, the Omaha YWCA and the UNO Pre-Law Association will sponsor a sexual assault mock trial and cell phone drive.

The mock trial will be held Tuesday April 11, from noon to 4 p.m. in the MBSC Nebraska Room. The event is designed for a mature audience and it is free and open to the public.

An actual case from the metro area will be used for the proceedings. Participants will include a former judge, current Douglas and Sarpy County prosecutors, a sexual assault nurse examiner and a police officer. The jury pool will be chosen from those in attendance.

Donations of used cell phones will be collected through April 11 in University Affairs in Room 108 in the Eppley Administration Building, and phones also will be accepted at the mock trial. All cell phones collected by the CCSW will be donated to the YWCA for women who need phones for emergencies.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Keller at 554-3317 or Becky Bohan Brown at 554-2243. For more information about pre-law at UNO, visit the Web at <http://www.unomaha.edu/prelaw/>.

From "CONSIDER THIS": Page 1

said Jim Adams, who directs "Consider This" for UNO's television department. Adams said Schrader wanted to pursue a more stable full-time job.

"She had been splitting her time. She's filmed almost 300 'Consider This' programs, and she did the same type of program at KETV about 700 times," Adams said.

With their veteran host gone, UNO Television needed an able replacement, and

they believe that Omaha journalist Andrea McMaster is just right.

"Andrea worked at WOWT as an anchor and reporter," said Adams. "She's got a great connection to the community."

McMaster is no stranger to Omaha-area news watchers.

"I decided to take this position because I have always enjoyed TV news and sharing information with the people of Nebraska,"

McMaster said. "I've been working in television for the past nine years in Nebraska, most recently for WOWT in Omaha. At WOWT, I reported three days a week and anchored the weekend morning shows. I left channel six so I could spend more time with my family.

'Consider This' allows me to still do what I love, but not have to work full time."

McMaster relishes the opportunity to do something different than she's used to.

"The format of the 'Consider This' program is different than anything I have ever done. I am used to shorter interviews in a half hour newscast. I look forward to the chance to do more in-depth interviews on the 'Consider This' program. I think a lot of topics deserve more time and 'Consider This' is a wonderful outlet for that," said McMaster.

McMaster will officially be a part of "Consider This" when she shoots her first episode this Thursday.

"Carol did a fantastic job

on the program for the past nine years. I know I have big shoes to fill. I am eager for the challenge," McMaster said.

Schrader was unavailable for comment. For more information about "Consider This," visit UNO Television's Website, [unomaha.edu](http://www.unomaha.edu).

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FEATURES

Josh Bashara | Features Editor

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features@gateway.unomaha.edu | April 11, 2006

20 Questions



A little insight into a random UNO student

BECKY BOYER
STAFF WRITER

Name: Rebecca Mhando
Major: Education
Year: 1st
Hometown: Tanzania

1. How would you describe yourself in one brief sentence? – I am a woman and I have one daughter, she's 10 years old.

2. If you could be a superhero, what power would you want the most and why? – I'd like to be like Superman. I could use my powers to talk about women's issues.

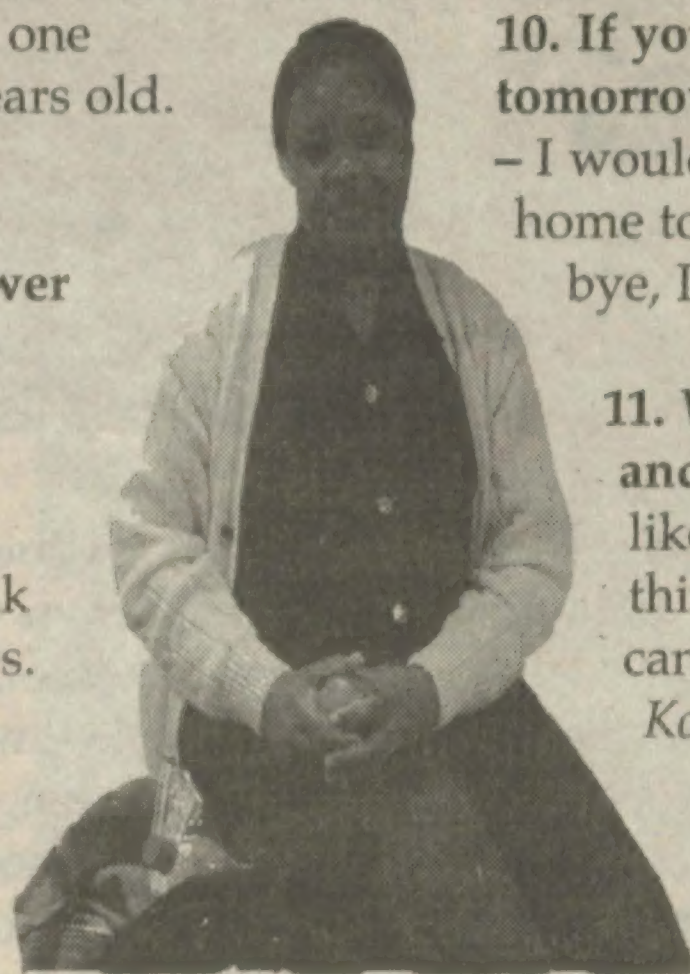
3. What person would you like to meet the most, dead or alive, and what would you ask him/her? – I'd like to meet with the president and ask about the wars in Afghanistan and Baghdad.

4. Who's the best professor at UNO you've ever had? – A classroom management teacher.

5. Who's the worst or what class do they teach? – No really bad professors or classes so far.

6. How do you feel about the parking at UNO? – Parking is horrible sometimes; you need to be here 30 or 45 minutes early, and there's still nowhere to park.

7. Why did you choose UNO? – I chose UNO because I like this place. People are very kind, and they have peace.



8. What do you think your favorite thing about going to school at UNO will be? – To be outside near the park; be able to talk outside.

9. What is your favorite quote? – Sometimes I like to do discussion groups where we read [quotes from people].

10. If you knew you were going to die tomorrow, what would you do today? – I would prepare by my faith and call home to Tanzania, tell people, "Bye-bye, I'm going to die."

11. What's your favorite movie, and why? – I love *King Kong*. I like it because sometimes you think people are bad, but they can still be good to you like *King Kong* (think before you judge).

12. What's the most messed-up thing about the world today? – I don't like war. In Africa we have a war in the Congo, Rwanda—[there's also a war] in Baghdad, I don't like it.

13. What would you do to change that? – [Have people] in my country write to a magazine, appear on TV, have seminars to talk about it.

14. If you could be any animal what would you be and why? – I'd like to be a dog because a dog likes to help, a dog is like a guide. So I'd like to be like a guide.

15. What's the most horrible or embarrassing thing that's ever happened to you? – I remember one day when I visited Germany, people there don't like black people, so when I'm on the train and sitting behind somebody, they get up and

they go away. I didn't know why this happened, but it happened three times. When I asked some black people, they told me that German people don't like black people. It was embarrassing for me.

16. What song or jingle gets stuck in your head after you hear it? – I like Gospel music. Sometimes if I'm frustrated and hear it, I feel good.

17. Who would win in a fight between Batman and Superman and why? – It depends because Superman can show the power to be Superman and Batman can do so, too.

18. What's the meaning of life? – Life is the way you choose to be.

19. What is the most difficult thing you've ever done in your life? – I never tried something like alcohol or smoking.

20. What is one question you've never been asked, but always wish someone would have and what is the answer to that question? – Questions I don't like to ask other people: Why you love, why you don't love? About sex. About age. Answer: I guess the answer to the questions.

Poetry matters when smattered; Crop celebrates poetry month

AMANDA GOREY
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

During the last two weeks, students, faculty and visitors may have noticed poetry popping up in unusual places.

Members of the Crop, UNO's Writers' Workshop Student Organization, have been smattering campus bulletin boards and kiosks with poetry as part of their 2006 poetry campaign, PoetSmatter.

"Poets Matter" or "Poet Smatter" is the theme of the Crop's campaign to promote recognition of student poetry in conjunction with National Poetry Month, which is celebrated in April. The Writers' Workshop has organized several events, both on and off campus, to bring awareness and encourage enjoyment of poetry.

"Poetry is like any other art. It expresses the current culture, the current state of people and it, in its timelessness, captures emotions that we all can emphasize with in one way or another," says Catharine Dixon, graduate student and president of the Crop.

The Crop and the Writers' Workshop are sponsoring a reading by the poet Julie Sheehan. The Iowa native's work has won several prizes and has been published in many books, magazines and journals. Sheehan's recently released second book, *Orient Point*, won the Barnard Women Poets Prize. Sheehan's performance will take place at Reading Grounds, 3928 Farnam St., as a

See *POETRY MATTERS*: Page 7

If you thought *Rain Man* was the whole story of Autism, Think again!

"LIVING WITH AUTISM"

by
RJ Heck



Join RJ Heck as he shares his story about being in college while having to deal with the challenges of Autism as well as his triumphs, including the historic moment when he and his fellow Marching Mavericks became the first UNO Marching Band to participate in an Inaugural Parade!

WHEN: Thursday, April 13th, 2006
12 noon

WHERE: UNO Milo Bail Student Center
Ballroom

FREE FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED
Following the Presentation,
RJ will be available for questions.

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Hip Hop Notes

BRIAN CASE
STAFF WRITER

I'm like Suge Knight shaking Vanilla Ice, and I'm making all the clowns pay the price.

Of all the radio stations in Omaha, **Hot 107.7/97.3** is by far the best. They don't beg for money like certain radio shows and they always have a solid play list, regardless of what artists you feel. The station doesn't play a lot of commercials, either, so you're always guaranteed to hear a song when you turn on the radio. The DJ's are talented and full of energy. Those guys always make me laugh. My main man, Bizzy B, is the best on-air personality in town, so do yourself a favor and make the system you spent all that paper on sound good.

Like the grains in an hourglass, so are the days of our lives. A plethora of artists' love lives are starting to sound like a soap opera. **Eminem** and Kim Mathers are headed for divorce...again. Apparently, she felt the need to air out her dirty laundry, too. During an interview with a Detroit radio station, Kim said that Eminem is still battling with his drug addiction and that the divorce notice was a surprise. Eminem refuted her claims. If you all remember, Em's on a break right now from his music but he is still working on Obie Trice's new album.

Master P is more bark than bite. He confronted Bow Wow backstage after the Nickelodeon Kids Choice Awards in Los Angeles. He was mad after Bow Wow dissed Master P's son Lil Romeo in "Fresh Azimiz."

The line "I'm 18 and making more than your dad" was in the song. Although Bow Wow told P what's up by responding to the threats with, "Actually the song ain't about you, but if the shoe fits..."

When **Suge Knight** isn't holding people over balconies, he's filing for bankruptcy protection. Suge allegedly owes \$107 million to Lydia Harris, who co-founded Death Row Records with her ex-husband Michael "Harry-O" Harris. They were both muscled out of the picture when Suge realized what a goldmine Death Row Records was. In an attempt to dodge the lawsuit and protect himself from having all of his assets seized, Suge filed for bankruptcy. Suge's lawyers claim that the lawsuit violated federal bankruptcy protection guidelines and are thus counter-suing for \$106 million, claiming that the lawsuit is fraudulent.

Nope, I'm not going into **Flavor Flav's** decision on his hit TV show "Flavor of Love." Pumkin will have to work on her spitting skills for the sequel.

People in the industry are taking notice of some negative messages sent in music videos today. **AJ Collway**, former host of BET's "106 & Park" doesn't like the messages sent by artists in their music videos. He quit BET after five years in July after allegedly being unhappy about his pay. What actually went down is that he couldn't let his niece watch his show, so he felt like he was hurting everyone by staying on. Standing up for your morals and beliefs can still be gangsta.

All right, that's it fools.



All Radio. No Bull.

The MavRadio Pick of the Week

Artist: Hurt
Album: Vol. 1
Label: Capitol Records
Release Date: March 21, 2006
Key Tracks: "Rapture," "Falls Apart," "Forever," "Danse Russe," "House Carpenter"
For Fans of: TOOL, Nirvana, Pearl Jam, Metallica

CHARLEY REED
MAVRADIO STAFF

"She swore she heard the voice of Jesus, telling her 'it was wrong to keep it,' and one more thing, it looked like me, back when it breathed...Rest in peace, until the rapture comes to meet us."

These are the closing lines to the hit song "Rapture" by Hurt, and anyone who has heard this young four-piece group would have to agree with front-man J. Loren about the appropriateness of the name: "I felt that was definitely the word," Loren explains on the band's Web site. "It had to be called that."

Hurt's other members include percussionist Evan Johns, bassist Joshua Ansley and guitarist Paul Spatola. But Loren is the centerpiece of the band, not only because of his powerful vocals, but because of his experiences growing up in rural Virginia. Raised with a palate of sounds ranging from Christian and Gospel music to the pinnacle of 1990s grunge rock, Loren has an uncanny natural ability to know what sounds good and what works. He's cherry picked the best aspects of his musical forefathers: Nirvana, Pearl Jam, TOOL, Metallica and Live.

Released in late March, Hurt's debut album, *Vol. 1*, is already a top-selling album on Amazon.com, and it peaked at number seven on Billboard's "Top Heatseekers" chart. This success hinges primarily on the band's huge radio hit, "Rapture." "Rapture" is, quite simply, the return of meaningful hard rock. Not since TOOL's "Schism" has there been a more powerful, yet artistically designed rock song. Ranging from howling to screaming to soothing whispers is what Loren does best, but with "Rapture" he does justice to his musical influences James Maynard Keenan, Eddie Vedder and James Hetfield.

Speaking of Metallica, "Falls Apart,"

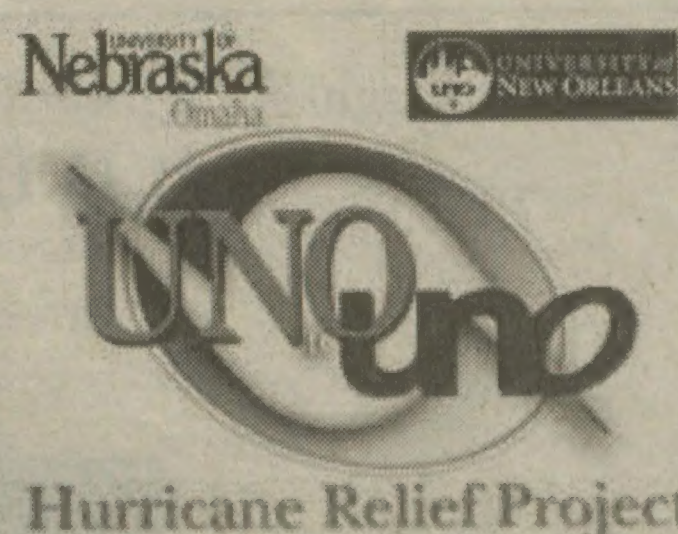
another fan favorite from the release, uses a lot of ambient noise and sound effects to open into the soothing version of Loren's range in a style similar to that of Metallica's "One" or "Nothing Else Matters." But then the song rips viciously into a gritty growl more like "Fuel" or "Master of Puppets." "Falls Apart" is an awesome companion piece to the band's first single.

Directly succeeding "Falls Apart" on *Vol. 1* is a much harder sound from Hurt, almost something you'd expect from Adema or HIM. The same goes for "Danse Russe," which is actually one of the slower and melodic songs on the album; melodic and slow much in the same way A Perfect Circle's "3 Libras," or Slipknot's "Vermillion" are slow and melodic. Neither is as good as the previously mentioned tracks, but on any other album this would be a stand-out track and hit single. Quite frankly, even the most mediocre song on Hurt's album would rise to the top of most other similar sounding artists on the radio today.

To end the album, Hurt brings out the big guns with an expedition to instrumental bliss. It is hard to try and explain this song other than to say that it balances every use of a guitar, a keyboard, drums or vocals to near perfection. It is the track that might wear out the fastest on your CD player.

It has been over a decade since powerful grunge rock was on top of the music scene, but with the genre bending and mixing of the 21st century, what once was old is new again. With *Vol. 1*, Hurt looks to capitalize and ride that revival into a successful venture as ambassadors for the next great generation of rock and roll.

University of New Orleans Speaker: Chevita Phifer



Chevita Phifer, a student from the University of New Orleans, will be in Omaha April 12-14, 2006. A reception will be held in her honor:

Date: Thursday, April 13

Time: 1 p.m. - 3 p.m.

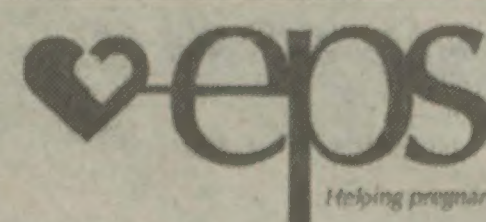
Place: Student Organizations and Leadership Office

All students, faculty and staff are invited to attend and welcome Chevita.

Miss Phifer is visiting the University of Nebraska Omaha campus in the midst of the annual Greek Week events that will be taking place, and she will be the keynote speaker at the Greek Week Banquet that culminates the end of the week of competitive events in the Greek Community. Chevita is an Alpha Kappa Alpha from the University of New Orleans. Chevita was invited to campus to represent the University of New Orleans when the Greek Week planning group committed to having the week-long philanthropy be the "UNO to UNO" Katrina Relief university-wide fund-raising effort. Throughout the week, April 10-14, students will be selling raffle tickets, selling "UNO to UNO" bracelets, and will be hosting a silent auction with all proceeds going to the "UNO to UNO" fund.

The University of Nebraska at Omaha is an equal opportunity institution. For special needs or accommodations, please let us know one week in advance by calling 554-2711 (TTY 554-3799).
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Softball sweeps conference, Scarpello gets number 300

NATHAN LEETE
SPORTS EDITOR

UNO softball Head Coach Jeanne Tostenson Scarpello picked up her 300th win Friday afternoon with the sweep of North Central Conference opponent North Dakota at Claussen Westgate Field.

The Mavs downed the Fighting Sioux 3-2 in the first game to give Scarpello her milestone victory, then celebrated by giving her No. 301 with an 8-0 victory in five innings in the nightcap. The No. 11 Mavericks improved their overall record to 29-6 and are 5-1 in NCC action.

In game one, the Mavericks were on the wrong end of a 2-0 score in the bottom of the sixth inning. Freshman Brooke Wagner tied things up with a triple, driving in seniors Shilo Jorgenson and Katie Novotny.

In the bottom of the seventh, the game looked like it was headed to extra innings, but Leslie Svoboda scored on a wild pitch by UND's Tara Peterson to give Scarpello her 300th win.

Cheris Kuster threw a three-hitter with a season-high 16 strikeouts to improve her record to 8-2 for the season.

In game two, UNO scored all eight runs in the third and fourth innings. Svoboda came up big for the Mavs again with a three-run homer to spark a four-run third inning. The blast was Svoboda's 13th on the season.



photo by Michelle Bishop

In game one of the Friday's doubleheader against North Dakota, Cheris Kuster threw a three-hitter with a season-high 16 strikeouts to lead the No. 11 Mavericks to a 3-2 win.

Allison Jergensen was the star of the four-run fourth with a two-RBI double to centerfield.

Taren Tuley struck out 10 Sioux to pick up the victory and improve to 12-2 on the season.

UNO will return to the diamond today at 3 p.m. to host No. 18 Northwest Missouri State in a non-conference doubleheader at 3 p.m.

Track runs away with eight titles at Concordia Invite

NATHAN LEETE
SPORTS EDITOR

The UNO track and field team took home eight individual titles at the Concordia Invitational Saturday afternoon.

Laverne Monger set meet and stadium records with her time of 24.55 seconds in the 200-meter dash. The time was also good enough for a provisional mark for the NCAA Nationals. Monger was a member of the 4x100-meter relay that took the title with a time of 46.98. Molly Belling, Foluso

Makinde and Magda Orzylowski joined Monger on the relay.

Belling took first in 100-meter dash with a time of 12.13. Karin Clarkson took the title in the 400-meter dash with a time of 57.43. Tahnee Tuenge won the 1500-meter run with a time of 4:44.42. Orzylowski took the 400-meter hurdles title at 1:03.03. Makinde won the long jump with a jump of 18 feet, 11.5 inches. The 4x400 relay team also finished first with a time of 3:53.03.

The Mavericks will travel to Emporia, Kan., for the Division II Challenge Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Mavericks golf takes second place at home tournament

NATHAN LEETE
SPORTS EDITOR

The UNO golf team's winning streak at its home course was ended Saturday when Minnesota State-Mankato walked away with the team crown at the Ironwood Collegiate Classic.

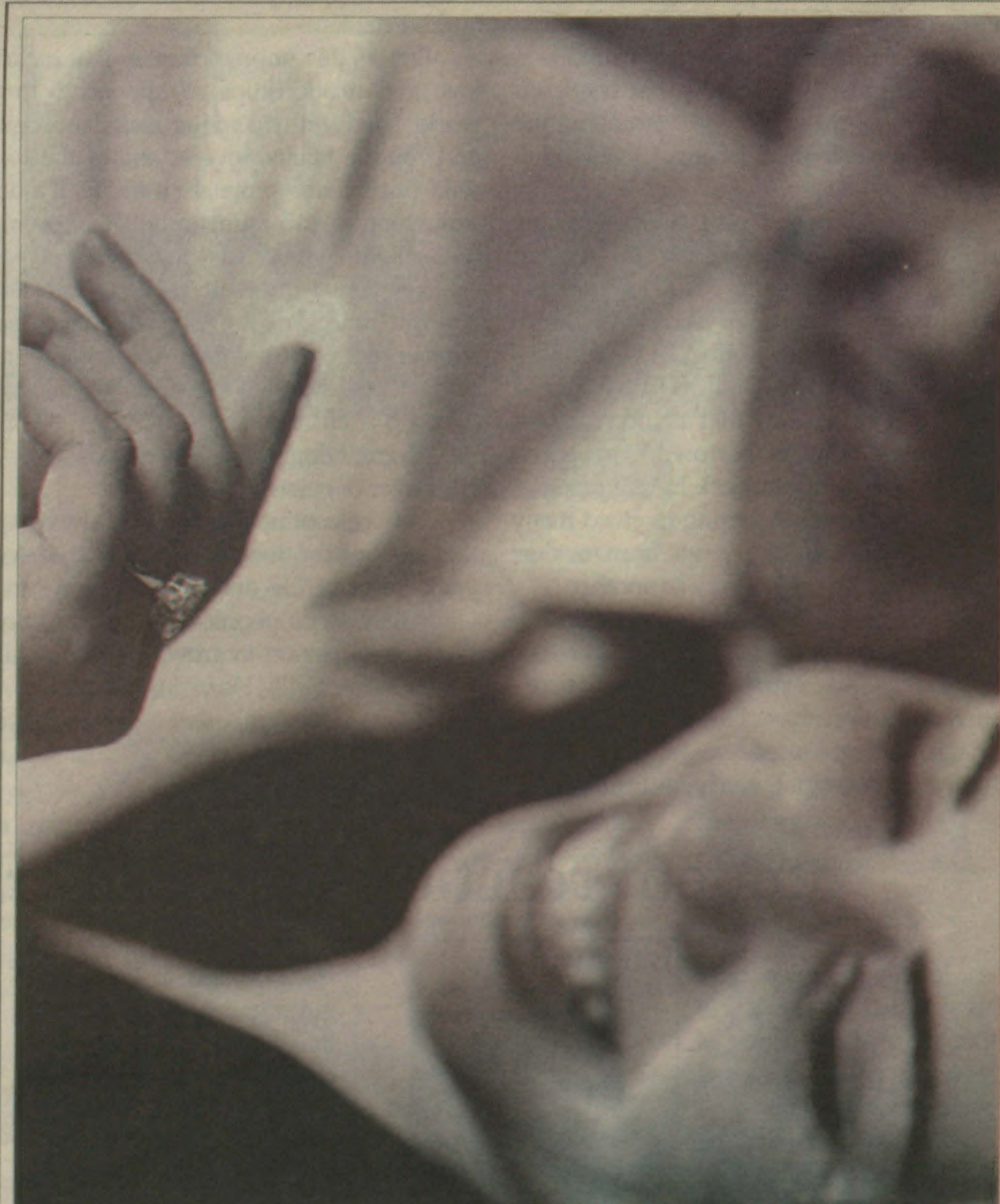
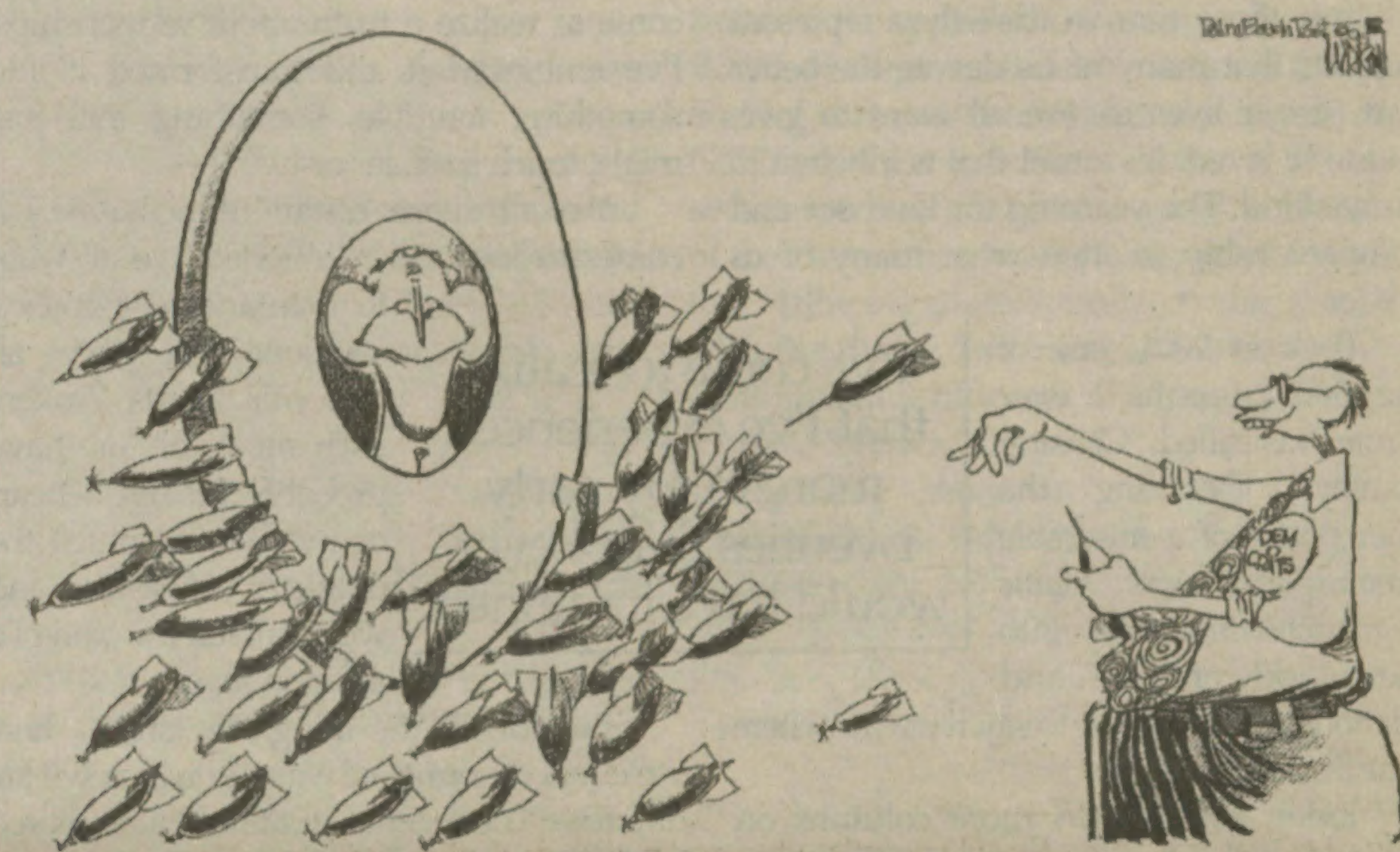
Minnesota State edged the Mavericks by nine strokes, 658 to 667, to take the team crown, despite four Mavs finishing in the top eight.

Augustana's Carly Roach won the individual title with a six over 78 in

Saturday's final round, for a 155 total at the 5,887-yard Ironwood Country Club. Roach finished a full seven shots ahead of MSU's Anne Martin. Martin shot a 75 first round, and an 87 second round for a 162 total.

Lynn Mulligan and Lindsay Newton led the Mavericks with 166 total to tie for fifth overall. Mandy Houtz came in sixth with a 167, and Kate O'Dea finished eight with a 168.

The Mavericks' next competition will be Friday and Saturday at the Southwest Minnesota State Invitational in Marshall, Minn.



first comes love...then comes

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Better to have been loved

As the weeks fly by and the end of the semester approaches, *Manic Digression* will soon draw to a close (at least in the *Gateway*). With only a few installments of this 5-year-old column left, I find that my topic choices have a bit more significance to me than they usually would.

I've been considering the options, thinking of all the aspects of life I've written about throughout the years, and how they all seem to fundamentally boil down to just a few basic ideas. Love, for example. Love and relationships.

Just those two words—they represent pursuits that many of us devote the better part of our lives to. We all want to love, and to be loved. It's a trait that is inherent to humankind. The yearning for love, sex and companionship is often what many of us live for.

Back in 2001, one of the first columns I ever wrote was called "Chasing Ashley." Detailing the finer points of a miserable breakup, it was *Manic Digression's* first foray into the world of love and relationships. Needless to say, it was nowhere near the last.

Today, I've written more columns on this subject that I can remember. They span over nearly six years, painting a picture of my love life from the age of 21 to 26. I've written columns that celebrate all the joys of being in love, and others that condemn it. In times of misery, I've written about the futility of love. In times of anger, I've written columns of hate.

Each column represents a different time in my life, each a unique account of what it's like to play this game called love. To that end, I've been accused of using my column to vent my personal feelings, a claim that's probably warranted. But I've always tried to write in such a way that anyone can find familiarities to his or her own experiences, no matter what the subject. In that regard, I think I've succeeded, having received many letters throughout the years from readers who can relate in some way or another.

Looking back, I've also succeeded in another, more personal way. I've come to realize that I've experienced more in my early twenties than I ever would have imagined. Regular readers might recall that I grew up pretty fat, nerdy and unpopular.

Manic Digression



Josh Bashara

Hell, I didn't even kiss a girl until I was 17.

But since then, I've been infinitely lucky when it came to experiencing the majority of what love and relationships have to offer. As we all know, the good comes with the bad—it wasn't always a picnic in the park. But there are so many lessons that can be learned from mistakes, especially when it comes to love.

Because I'm lucky enough to have this column, I've been able not only able to share these lessons with others, but to document them as well. Every time I've come to realize a truth about relationships, I've embraced it and transformed it into something tangible, something that just might touch a reader or two.

We all share certain things when it comes to love. As mentioned, we all want to love and be loved by someone else. We've all had our hearts broken, and most of us have probably broken a heart or two. We've all felt the magic of a first kiss, and we've all felt the pain of a last goodbye.

But for all the things we share, there are equal amounts of ways in which we are different. There is no situation that is shared by another person in exactly the same way. If there were, love wouldn't be so damn unpredictable.

But it's this unpredictability that makes love and relationships so appealing. In a world filled with so many mundane tasks and routine habits, love is one of the few wild cards that we are dealt in life. It's not something we can count on, and it's certainly not something that's easy to find.

The young adult's life is filled with many pleasures and sorrows. All the madness that surrounds love is a testament to our perpetual hunger for experiences. After awhile, we wise up a bit and realize that love—in all its self-gratifying glory—often ends up as a harbinger of pain.

Yet we continue to chase it, always on the lookout for that one person that will walk into our life and change everything. Ultimately, some people are lucky and find that special person to grow old with, while others never will. Deep inside, though, I think we agree with that age-old truism that it's better to have loved and lost than to never have loved at all.

I've come to realize that I've experienced more in my early twenties than I ever would have imagined.

What are Nebraska values?

Pete Ricketts has "Nebraska values" and so does David Kramer. Senator Ben Nelson has small-town values. Governor Dave Heineman has "old-fashioned values."

It seems like the upcoming elections in Nebraska are all about values. Why bore the voters with issues when you can bewilder them with superficial statements about your character.

If a candidate wants to tout his or her childhood: that's fine. If they think growing up in rural Nebraska is superior to growing up in Omaha, that's OK too. Go ahead and put a picture of your family homesteading Nebraska 100 years ago; I won't argue with you.

I draw the line when candidates make vague character statements that are impossible to factually backup. There's nothing more vague than saying "I have Nebraska values." What in the hell does that mean and why should I care?

If these Nebraska values are so important, how does someone prove they have them? The truth is you can't. Just because a man goes to church on weekly basis doesn't mean he's faithful to his wife. Giving money to a charity doesn't mean you're kind and generous. And growing up in Nebraska doesn't mean you have Nebraska values (if that's even a good thing).

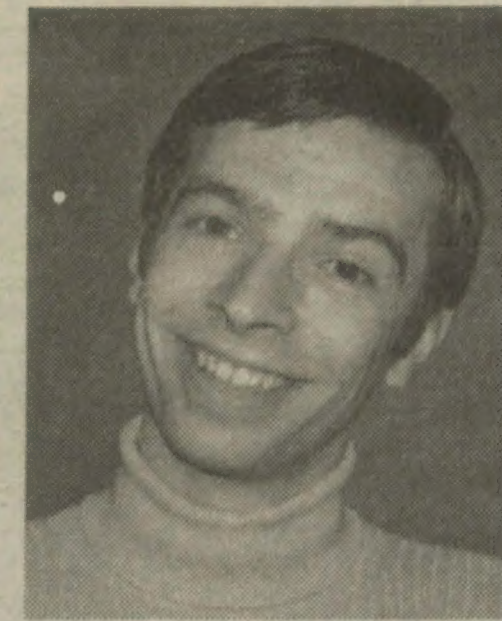
If candidates for public office are going to tout Nebraska values as one of their best qualifications for service, shouldn't we know what they are?

Well, let's take a look at some good old-fashioned Nebraska values.

Let's start with health insurance. What type of guidance do Nebraska values provide when talking about this subject? Is it acceptable to have 150,000 people in Nebraska without health insurance? Should a healthy single woman at the poverty level be spending 50 percent of her income on health insurance? In Nebraska, were we taught to look the other way when there are 24,000 children in the state without health insurance? Well, according to hhs.state.ne.us, that's the situation we face in this state. Are these the values that Pete Ricketts and other candidates are going to take to Washington?

Last month, a study released by the Guttmacher Institute ranked Nebraska dead last when it comes

Mainstream Response



Ryan Renner

to preventing unplanned pregnancies. Nebraska's dismal ranking can be attributed to the state's lack of family planning services and public funding for those services. Congratulations, Nebraska! Let's spread this value throughout the country.

Nebraska is also home to The Diocese of Lincoln, the very last Roman Catholic Diocese in America that doesn't allow altar

girls, according to a usatoday.com report. In 1994 Pope John Paul II changed the centuries-old custom to allow altar girls. Although Pope John Paul II is on the fast track to sainthood, he obviously has a deficiency of Nebraska values.

How about education? Do Nebraska's value teachers? Well, if you judged our values by the average teacher's salary, then the answer would be no. Nebraska ranks 42nd in the United States when it comes to average teacher salary, according to nsea.org. Will elected officials fight for poor teacher pay? If they have Nebraska values, we can't rule it out.

At what age can someone be identified as having Nebraska values? Well, according to a Nebraska Cooperative Extension report Nebraska is third nationally in teenagers reporting they drink and drive. We rank second in the country for the number of teenagers that report riding with a driver who's been drinking. That's good ol' Nebraska values for you.

So, what can you take away from all this talk about values? Well, any candidate that talks about values is moving his or her mouth, but saying absolutely nothing. Time spent talking about values is time that could be and should be spent talking about actual issues. Anyone that does this is doing a disservice to the voters.

So when you hear a candidate talk about values, think to yourself what they're not talking about. Are they talking about values because they aren't qualified for the job? Are they talking about values because they are afraid of their record? Or are they talking about values because they don't understand the issues and have no idea of how to make things better? Those are all things you should think about the next time you hear someone say "I have Nebraska values."

Student reaction to preachers shameful

Jeremy Sonnier held his sign and his stance. He spouted off Bible verses as his fellow preachers passed out religious literature.

I hated everything he said. I hated the sneakers and long skirts that the women with him were wearing. And what was with the bonnets? I particularly hated the fact that the grubby little guy with the acoustic guitar who was accompanying Sonnier told me that I was rejecting Jesus when I politely declined one of his tracts (that's what they call the pamphlets they hand out).

Bitter with Age



Angi Sada

I wanted to knock that guy's guitar neck down his throat for following me to the student center doors while telling me that I was a "Jesus-rejecting whore." Perhaps I am, but at least I'm not violent.

I maintained my composure. I let them say what they wanted to say. It's their First Amendment right. Just like it's mine to write this column and say that I

love "money lovers, Buddhists and porno freaks." According to Sonnier's sign, those folks are all going to be judged. And they are

all going down. But, so am I.

Out of all the awful things I saw that day, I was most offended by the reaction of the members of the UNO community. We behaved like classless animals. We were disrespectful and downright hypocritical.

These raging liberals were doing everything they accuse "the establishment" of doing to them. Worse than that they were disrespectful to the fact that Sonnier and his group had followed the appropriate channels to be there and Campus Security just stood in the doorway of the student center talking to each other on their two-way radios.

The students behaved as if only their minority views are acceptable. Only their viewpoints are worth hearing. Only their

See BITTER WITH AGE: Page 8



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From **POETRY MATTERS:** Page 3

part of the Midwest Best Reading Series on Friday, April 14, at 7 p.m.

On April 19, the English department and the Crop is sponsoring a campus poetry reading. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., students and faculty will be reading their favorite poems published by famous writers in the Milo Bail Student Center plaza.

The reading will be hosted by Dixon and fellow Crop member Fran Higgins. Already on the schedule are poems by the likes of William Shakespeare and Emily Dickinson. In the event of inclement weather, the celebration will move inside to the Fireplace Lounge.

"If people ignore poetry, they are ignoring their history and their chance to make a mark on the future," Dixon says. "What I love most about art, and particularly poetry, is that it's an escape as

well. When one reads *good* poetry, it should move her, make her feel emotion and cause her to take time away from the busy world, even for just five minutes, and embrace beautiful images and language."

As a final campus event, the Crop will be promoting poetry via water-soluble graffiti. On April 20, from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m., members of the Crop will once again return to the MBSC plaza with sidewalk chalk in hand. Members will be committing poetry to sidewalks and encouraging passers by to get creative and join them—either by adding to poetry that has already been chalked or by creating their own.

"National Poetry Month is an opportunity to share with everyone what poetry is and why we should take the time to read it," Dixon says.

From **MAVCARD:** Page 1

get rid of using Social Security numbers," Dobrauc said. "The push for the NU ID is to stop using Social Security numbers on campus. UNL did it last year."

The new NU ID will be printed clearly on the re-issued MavCards, as well as being made available on the campus online registration system E-BRUNO starting in June.

"The Social Security numbers were never on the [MavCard] in the first place," Dobrauc said.

The need for the University of Nebraska to migrate away from Social Security numbers was highlighted in late March, when it was discovered by the *Daily Nebraskan* that a Web page containing 342 engineering students' Social Security numbers were inadvertently published and then archived by Google.

"This re-carding will take us through the

summer and into the fall," Dobrauc said.

MavCard Services will begin re-issuing cards to students in the Fireplace Lounge of the Milo Bail Student Center on Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., starting next week. To accommodate night students, extended hours until 6:30 p.m. will be available on April 18 and April 26 as well as May 4.

Residents of Scott Village and Scott Residence Hall will have their cards reissued at a later date, because of the technology to allow them to enter the dorms and their parking lots embedded in their cards, according to Dobrauc. Residents of University Village should get their cards reissued during the above-scheduled times.

Incoming freshmen will have the new MavCard issued to them during orientations, which start on Thursday.

From **STUDENT SENATE:** Page 1

members are preparing to do starting this week.

President/Regent Steve Massara began his report by awarding Sen. James Card a \$5 bill for correctly answering the question, "What is the number one goal of Student Government?" Card's winning answer was "visibility."

Massara went on to remind senators of tomorrow's LGTBQ forum, encouraged senators to vote to join the American Student Government Association and summarized the results of the emergency Board of Regents meeting on the construction of residence halls at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

"We kind of got screwed on the deal," Massara said. "Now we are pushed back two months."

Business began as Vice President VaShawn Smith and Legislative and Public Relations Officer Latavia Adams made a combined total of 44 appointments to various student government offices and university committees.

"A lot of these people are reappointments," Smith said.

Appointments included several positions on the Election Commission and the re-appointment of Kristy Swirzinski as Executive Treasurer. A complete list is available at the *Gateway* Web site, unogateway.com.

Adams also reminded senators that there are still many open positions in Student Government and referred any interested students to their Web site, sguno.unomaha.edu.

Senators tabled a letter in support of Nebraska Legislative Bill 239, which establishes residency requirements for postsecondary educational institutions to assist student immigrants who wish to establish residency. The letter will be reconsidered on April 20, after the state legislature's current legislative session is over.

"The University of Nebraska already has standards in place that are very similar to this bill," Speaker Aaron Gilliland said.

After some initial confusion over the availability of funds and the term of membership, senators also approved a resolution made by Sen. Cassy Loseke to join the American Student Government Association.

"It is a great resource and I think we should be part of it," Loseke said. "This definitely will provide visibility—not just on campus but across the nation."

Senators also unanimously approved a resolution calling for the availability of all campus policies in one central depository on UNO's Web site and the creation of campus bylaws for UNO that are similar to those at UNL.

The resolution also states that "all policies not made readily available for the public in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act are not valid" and "that no persons may be punished or admonished for violating the rules and regulations until they are made promptly available to all."

The resolution was amended, however, prior to its approval. A paragraph citing Board of Regents Bylaws sections 2.8.1.b and 1.g was removed against the wishes of Gilliland, the resolution's sponsor. Those sections, which are listed among the duties of the chancellor, state among other things that "[t]he organization of each major unit with the duties and responsibilities of the administrative officers...shall be appended to these Bylaws."

Several senators, including Sen. Michael White, called for the amendment because they believed that Chancellor Nancy Belck had done a lot for students and did not deserve to be reprimanded, opposed the wording.

"I want to be on good terms with her," White said. "This is something I completely support."

Speaking after the meeting, Gilliland and a few of the senators expressed his frustration with the amendment.

"I am disappointed that it did not pass as it was," Gilliland said. "A lot of students are sometimes afraid to let our their feelings."

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St. Mark's Child Care and Preschool has immediate full and part time opening available for assistant teachers. You must have a kind heart and a desire and love to work with children six weeks to 12 years old. If this sounds like you please call April at 712-328-1179, or apply in person at 15 Bennett Ave, Council Bluffs, IA, 51503.

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Death Cab for Cutie comes to the Sokol

Singer/songwriter Ben Gibbard sings to a sold out crowd at the Sokol Auditorium April 3. Gibbard's band, Death Cab for Cutie, is on the road in support of their new album, Plans.

photo by Michelle Bishop

From **BITTER WITH AGE**: Page 6

rights are worth exercising and protecting.

These students became the oppressors in less than 15 minutes. That's faster than a Domino's delivery guy.

They assaulted him with eggs and blocked his field of vision. They made it difficult for him to speak with representatives of the media. They stood toe to toe with him yelling insults in his face. But he stood his ground. I admired the stones it took.

In this culture of educated and enlightened thinkers, there were displays of intolerance and hate like I've never seen before in my life. I watched braless girls and tattooed guys screaming about how Sonnier

was out of line.

When, in fact, they were out of line.

One student said that it was "a recipe for disaster" for the preachers to be on campus that day. He said this was a campus of people exposed to and tolerant of other cultures. Just not Sonnier's.

These students are supposed to be learning how to mend bridges between the extreme corners of the universe. They are students of the world.

They obviously skipped class that day and missed the best opportunity to learn they have probably had on this campus all year.

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